



## Big-n-Beasty Planting Instructions

1. Big-n-Beasty is typically planted late July to early August depending on your location and your weather. Needs approximately 45-60 day growing season. Best if planted just before a rain. (Hint: Have fields prepared and ready to go, and then watch the weather forecast.)
2. BnB grows in most any soil given proper nutrients and moisture, but it prefers a well-drained but heavier loam soil. Does not do well in wet soils or fields that flood or hold water after a heavy rain.  
  
\*Approximately one month before planting, condition the soil with a roto-tiller, disc, chisel plow or similar equipment to prepare a good seed bed. Next allow existing vegetation to grow back and then spray with Roundup one to two weeks before planting.
3. When ready to plant, loosen up just the seed bed surface with a drag or chain link fence to just loosen up the topsoil. Do not till too deep, tilling deep will only bring more weed seeds to the surface. \*\* Spread fertilizer prior to dragging\*\*
4. Soil should be fertile with a pH of 6.5 to 7.5. If you are not sure of your soils fertility or pH, have your soil tested. Your local farm co-op or fertilizer dealer can usually help with this. Add lime as needed to improve pH.  
  
\*A good fertilizer recommendation is 300-400 lbs/acre of 19-19-19 followed by an application of 50-100 lbs/acre of urea (46-0-0) after 4-6 weeks. If you see your plants turning purple and/or yellow it is lacking nutrients.
5. Using a hand or shoulder seeder, broadcast 4 lbs. per acre. DO NOT OVER-SEED. Can't stress this enough!  
  
\* Set your seeder on one of the smallest settings. Walk fast and crank hard! Better to go back and overlap then run out of seed too soon. Seeding heavy will only stunt the growth of your plants.
6. Important: Use a cultipacker, roller, or even your ATV tires to pack the field to insure good seed/soil contact. You do not need to worry about covering the seed. If the seed is planted too deep, it will not grow. Do not skip this step!

## Weed Control & Some Additional Tips

\*Try broadcasting BnB into an existing field of soybeans in late July. A great way to add additional forage into a plot.

\*If Roundup is used prior to planting and under normal growing conditions, Big-n-Beasty grows fast enough that it should out-grow any weeds. If you do have a severe weed problem after germination, use a grass selective herbicide such as Select or Poast. This won't help with broadleaf weeds but it will control grasses.

\*If you have sandy soil or want to improve any field, try planting an inexpensive Spring annual such as buckwheat or rye grain. Plow under this "green fertilizer" a few weeks before planting. This practice used by many crop farmers and will help condition your soil, gather nitrogen, control weeds, and add organic material to your soil.

\*If you are concerned about having additional forage in the Spring, mix in a small amount of clover seed when planting the Big-n-Beasty. (no more than 3-4 lbs/acre) This is not a recommended strategy for creating a quality clover plot, but it does provide some additional Spring forage for deer and turkeys.